

The Governor's Conference on Rural Development

(Combining the Nebraska Community Improvement Program Conference and Partnership for Rural Nebraska Rural Institute)

Friday, November 14 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney

Draft Schedule

Pre Conference Session: Thursday, November 13
1:00-4:00pm: (Location TBD)
Technology Training Tim O'Brien – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i> Connie Hancock – <i>University of Nebraska Extension</i> Learn the basics of utilizing technology for community and business development. This hands-on session will cover topics such as: social networking, effective web pages, podcasting and more.
12:45-5:30pm:
Tour: Loup City, Ravenna, Gibbon: Travel from Kearney to Loup City to see first-hand all local volunteers have been able to accomplish. Highlights include the disc golf course that was created on the grounds of an old zoo; the new community center; and highlights of Polish Days. Also, participants will hear how the community was able to attract the software engineering company, Xpanxion. Next, participants will step back on the bus to learn more about the Nebraska By-Ways while in route to Ravenna. In Ravenna, the bus will stop and allow participants the opportunity to visit the Ravenna youth center and hear from some outstanding youth leaders. Additional stops will provide information on bed and breakfasts, business development and housing. The last stop will be in Gibbon at Geo Spencer winery, with just enough time for some relaxation while learning about Agri-business opportunities in Nebraska. The tour will conclude in Kearney. Final tour locations TBD
Conference Schedule: Friday, November 14, Kearney Holiday Inn
8:00-9:00am: Registration
9:00-10:15am: Welcome and Keynote Address Welcome: Richard Baier, Director of <i>Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i> Keynote: Richard Karlgaard, <i>Publisher of Forbes Magazine</i> America's Coming Heartland Boom: Would you (or your employees) be happier if you lived somewhere else? A place where the quality of life is greater than the cost of living? In the coming years, this kind of balanced, technology-enabled lifestyle is what millions of Americans will seek out. This session is designed for state and city economic developers, real-estate developers, human-capital managers, community volunteers and leaders, as well as anyone interested in American regional growth patterns. You will learn: which American heartland cities and regions will prosper, what do talented workers really want, why Global trends and U.S. demographics favor small city revival, eight secrets of thriving small and medium cities, and why states and cities should develop entrepreneurs and not chase jobs.
10:15-10:45am: Break, Networking, and Resource Booths

10:45-11:45 am: Breakout Sessions #1			
Human Resources	Technical Resources	Financial Resources	Natural Resources
Activate and Motivate Volunteers Doug Swanson – <i>University of Nebraska Extension</i>	Richard Karlgaard Continued Richard Karlgaard – <i>Publisher of Forbes Magazine</i>	Leveraging the FUNdraising Doug Fredli – <i>Nebraska Community Foundation</i> Tara Hosick – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i>	Turning Brown into Green Hugh Stirts – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality</i> Charlene Sundermann – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality</i>
11:45 am – 1:15 pm: Luncheon & Networking Awards Luncheon Keynote: Matt Deighton, <i>Greensburg Rebuilds</i> Matt Deighton will share his experience in helping to overcome one of the biggest tragedies a community could ever face – complete destruction by a tornado. In the spring of 2007, Greensburg, KS was hit by a powerful F5 tornado, destroying nearly the entire community. Learn about the amazing volunteers and leaders that are helping to rebuild this community and why Greensburg decided to build as the first “Green” community in the country.			
1:15-1:30 pm: Break, Networking, and Resource Booths			
1:30-2:30 pm: Breakout Sessions #2			
Human Resources	Technical Resources	Financial Resources	Natural Resources
Welcome...Please Make Yourself at Home Nancy Glaubke – <i>Ord Economic Development</i> Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel – <i>University of Nebraska Extension</i>	Can you Hear Me Now? Assessing Your Community’s Technological Capabilities Tim O’Brien – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i> Connie Hancock – <i>University of Nebraska Extension</i>	Funders Roundtable: Financial Packaging for Community Projects Jackie Stumpff – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality</i> Barbara Foster – <i>Small Business Administration</i> ? – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i> ? – <i>NIFA</i> ? – <i>USDA</i>	The Answer is Blowing in the Wind...or Not? Alternative Energy and Conservation Techniques Dave Rich – <i>Nebraska Public Power District</i> ? – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Energy</i>
2:30-3:00 pm: Break, Networking, and Resource Booths			

3:00-4:00 pm: Breakout Sessions #3			
Human Resources The Many Generations of Community Kathie Starkweather – <i>Center for Rural Affairs</i> Micheal Holton – <i>Center for Rural Affairs</i>	Technical Resources The Rejuvenation of America’s Downtowns Steve Charleston – <i>Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i> J.L. Schmidt – <i>Main Street</i> Elizabeth Chase – <i>Main Street</i>	Financial Resources Development Districts – What Can They Do for You? Thomas Higgenbotham, Jr. – <i>Northeast Nebraska Development District</i>	Natural Resources Innovation with Organics and Ag- Business Billene Nemas – <i>Buy Fresh, Buy Local</i> Connie Reimers-Hild – <i>University of Nebraska Extension</i>
4:00-4:30 pm: Break, Networking, and Resource Booths			
4:30-5:45 pm: Registration for NCIP Banquet, Networking Reception, Silent Auction, Cash Bar			
5:45-8:30 pm: NCIP Awards Banquet Welcome: Richard Baier – <i>Director of Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development</i> Opening Remarks: Governor Dave Heinemann			